

April 9, 1987

LB 67, 80, 146, 343, 367, 493, 569  
571, 576, 577, 661, 661A, 721, 753

**SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING**

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** On this 32nd day of Lent, the Chair is pleased to recognize Dr. Robert Palmer for the opening prayer.

**DR. PALMER:** (Prayer offered.)

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you, Dr. Palmer.

(Recorder malfunctioned. Journal shows Roll Call; Clerk read Enrollment and Review report regarding LB 80; message from the Governor regarding LBs 67, 343, 367, 493, 569, 571, 576, 577, 721, 753, 661, 661A; LB 146 on Select File with Schmit amendment found in the Journal on page 1060 pending. See pages 1578-80 of the Legislative Journal.)

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you. The Schmit amendment on page 1060, Senator Schmit, please.

**SENATOR SCHMIT:** Mr. President and members, Mr. Clerk, is this amendment 0972?

**CLERK:** I have 0572, Senator. I don't have 972.

**SENATOR SCHMIT:** Mr. President, and members, this amendment which I offer to 146 does several things. First of all, it recognizes that water transfers are currently taking place and due to the Sporhase decision of several years ago, it cannot be stopped by the State of Nebraska. It is a recourse which we tried, or by the Director of Water Resources. And, secondly, it recognizes also that many of Nebraska's water problems result from too much water, and if you happened to read this morning's newspaper, that is a lead story on the front page of the second section. And, third, it recognizes the need for a responsible study of current options, and directs the Water Management Board in consultation with the Natural Resources Commission to identify and develop the appropriate mechanisms for regulation. Now, Mr. President and members, LB 146 is a bill which starts off on the premise that we do need to review the possibility that Nebraska has a valuable water resource, and that we ought to be able to manage it better than we are doing at the present time. Secondly, it recognizes that, at the present time, we are not able to control transfers of water either within the state nor outside of the state. Now this flies right directly in the face of many popular conceptions. Many of the people who testified against this bill and against its companion and a